

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CHIANG 00075 210912Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 PASO-00 /019 W
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FM AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 519
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS CHIANG MAI 075

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CDES, TH (SAUNDERS, DANIEL HOWERTON)
SUBJECT: AUTOPSY REPORT

FOR MRS. DORIS EAGLESON
2057 UPPER CHELSEA ROAD
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43221
(614) 488-0994

1. AUTOPSY REPORT FOR YOUR SON DANIEL HAS NOT YET BEEN FINALIZED BECAUSE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF TEST RESULTS FROM BANGKOK. (SAMPLE SPECIMENS WERE FLOWN TO BANGKOK FOR ADDITIONAL TESTS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AUTOPSY.) WE HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DR. SRI SRISUKRI, CHIEF OF FORENSIC MEDICINE AT CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, WHO PERFORMED THE AUTOPSY. SHE SAYS THAT SHE FOUND A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF HIGH-PURITY MORPHINE IN DANIEL'S URINE. THIS INDICATES THAT DEATH WAS DUE TO AN OVERDOSE OF OPIATES.

2. AMERICAN TOURISTS WHO COME TO NORTHERN THAILAND FOR JUNGLE TOURS ARE OFTEN UNAWARE THAT DRUGS AVAILABLE HERE ARE OF EXTREMELY HIGH PURITY AND POTENCY. OPIUM IS NOT LEGAL IN THAILAND BUT IS STILL AVAILABLE IN SOME HILL-TRIBE VILLAGES. MOST TOURISTS, HOWEVER, DO UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT REALIZE THAT THE EFFECTS OF SMOKING A LARGE AMOUNT OF OPIUM, ESPECIALLY IF COMBINED WITH FATIGUE FROM THE TREK AND/OR ALCOHOL, CAN BE FATAL. THIS IS APPARENTLY WHAT HAPPENED TO DANIEL.

3. IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE OFFICIAL CAUSE OF DEATH, WHEN VERIFIED BY BANGKOK AUTHORITIES, WILL BE AN OVER-

DOSE OF OPIATES. WE STILL DO NOT KNOW WHEN THE
OFFICIAL REPORT WILL BE MADE, BUT WE WILL SEND YOU A
COPY, WITH TRANSLATION, AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.
TANNER

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED ABOVE ADDEE.

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NNN

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